

[SENATE BILL, No. 159.]

SENATE, Dec 13, 1863.—Read first and second times, laid on the table and ordered to be printed. December 17, 1863.—Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. January 14, 1864.—Reported, with amendments, an bill and amendments ordered to be printed.

[Mr. JOHNSON, of Arkansas, by leave.]

• A BILL

To limit and define the term of office of the Secretary or principal officer of each of the Executive Departments, established by the several acts entitled, "An act to organize the Department of State," "An act to establish the Treasury Department," "An act to establish the War Department," "An act to establish the Navy Department," "An act to establish the Post-Office Department," "An act to organize and establish an Executive Department, to be known as the Department of Justice;" all of which Acts were approved February 21, 1861.

1 SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do*
2 *enact*, That the term of office of the "Secretary," or the "prin-
3 cipal officer" of each one of the several Executive Departments,
4 shall be for the same period of time as that of a member of the
5 House of Representatives, and shall expire at the end of each
6 Congress of the Confederate States; but that the same officer or

7 person may be renominated, and shall be competent, if confirmed,
8 to occupy and enjoy the rights, and to discharge the duties of
9 said office, for any number of "terms."

AMENDMENTS

Proposed by the Committee on the Judiciary to the foregoing bill:

1 I. In the fifth line, after the word "Representatives," insert as
2 follows: "Subject to removal at the pleasure of the President."

II. Add the following independent sections:

1 SEC. 2. That the commission of each and every officer named
2 in the first section of this act, now in office, unless vacated by
3 removal from office, or otherwise, shall cease and expire, on the
4 18th day of February, in the year 1864.

1 SEC. 3. That all laws, and parts of laws, inconsistent with the
2 provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

III. Amend the title by striking out the words "limit and define,"
in the first line, and inserting the word "regulate."